Online-Only Abstracts: Population-based burden of bloodstream infections in Finland

Seroepidemiology of human bocavirus in Apulia, Italy

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Abstract

A serological survey was performed to determine the prevalence of antibodies against human bocavirus in an Apulian population. Anti-hBoV IgG antibodies were analysed in 1206 inhabitants (age range, 1 month–84 years) using a standardized ELISA test based on the use of recombinant hBoV VP2 virus-like particles. In total, 1075 (89.1%) of 1206 participants (mean age 32 ± 24.8 years) displayed anti-hBoV-IgG. The seroprevalence increased significantly ($p < 0.0001$) in children from 2–4 years (64.2%) to 5–9 years (96.4%). A similar trend was observed in both male and female subjects. In conclusion, our results show that hBoV infection is common in this population, especially in children.

Screening and detection of human enterovirus 71 infection by a real-time RT-PCR assay in Marseille, France, 2009–2011

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Abstract

Enterovirus-positive samples diagnosed in Marseille (January 2009 to September 2011) were screened for EV71 by real-time RT-PCR. EV71 was detected in three children below the age of 2 years with no history of overseas travel; two of these cases were associated with severe clinical presentation. Viruses demonstrated genetic similarity to other European genogroup C2 strains. Strain MRS/09/3663 complete sequencing revealed 97.6% identity across the entire genome with a 2008 Singapore isolate, without signs of possible recombination events. To our knowledge, this is the first detection of EV71 infection in Marseille, France, that confirms the current circulation of EV71 in France.

Evaluation of the Xpert Flu test and comparison with in-house real-time RT-PCR assays for detection of influenza virus from 2008 to 2011 in Marseille, France

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Abstract

Rapid documentation of respiratory specimens can have an impact on the management of patients and their relatives in terms of preventive and curative measures. We compared the results of the Xpert® Flu assay (Cepheid) with three real-time RT-PCR assays using 127 nasopharyngeal samples, of which 75 were positive for influenza A (with 52 identified as A/H1N1-2009) and 52 were positive for influenza B. The Xpert® Flu assay presented a quasi-absence of non-interpretable tests, and showed sensitivity and specificity of 100% and 100% for Flu A, 98.4% and 100% for A/H1N1-2009, and 80.7% and 100% for Flu B.